



Piscataquis County Economic Development Council

February 15, 2013

ConnectME Authority
Phillip Lindley, Executive Director
138 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Re: Funding – Dover-Foxcroft Region

Connect ME Funding requested: \$78,402.00
Total Project Cost: \$115,082.00

Dear Members of the Connect Maine Authority,

Piscataquis County Economic Development Council submits this pre-application letter to ConnectME for funding for approximately 18 homes in the Dover-Foxcroft region. These unserved homes are located in geographically challenged areas for broadband service.

Piscataquis County Economic Development Council is collaborating on this project with Axiom Technologies, a telecommunications company located in Machias, Maine that provides broadband, Internet access options and technical computer and networking services and training to businesses and residential subscribers. For the past eight years, Axiom has been working diligently to bring high-speed, wireless broadband service to the unserved areas of Washington County.

Broadband availability confirmation of the unserved homes and businesses has been completed via the ConnectME Broadband Map and U.S. National Broadband Map. Axiom is a reseller of Fairpoint Communications DSL services and as such has confirmed that FPC's DSL is not available for the approximately 18 homes and businesses in this location. Time Warner Cable is also not available in these locations.

Broadband Service will be delivered to the customer's premises (either business or residential) via wireless technology. During the grant application process, an engineering study will be completed to determine the most cost-effective and efficient method for broadband delivery.

The subscriber bandwidth for this project will follow the FCC recommendation of 3 Mbps to 6 Mbps and will likely be capable of 10 Mbps Symmetrical service for homes and businesses.

Piscataquis County Economic Development Council is committed to bringing broadband service to the unserved areas of the Dover-Foxcroft region with ConnectME grant funding. Approximate total budget for the project is \$115,082.00, however, a final budget and grant request will be submitted with the final ConnectME Grant Application.

Sincerely,

Janet Sawyer

Janet Sawyer,
Business Development Director